

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Implement for Curling Hair

I, SIDNEY RICKE, a British Subject, of 14, Hay Hill, Berkeley Square, London, W.1, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention has reference to an implement for assisting in the production of curls in meshes of hair which may be subsequently combed and styled into waves. The term "mesh" is usually employed in the hair-dressing art to describe a tress or lock resulting from the imaginary subdivision of a scalp into a number of rectangular meshes of requisite size, e.g. one inch square, or one inch by two inches and so forth. While the invention is mostly applicable to the treatment of meshes growing on the human head it is equally useful for producing curls in the hair on wigs and other bases.

The said implement facilitates the employment of a method for curling hair consisting of taking a mesh of hair, enclosing it in a straightened condition from base to tip within a tube of thin flexible material so that it lies substantially co-axial with the tube, dampening the mesh before or after enclosure in the tube with a suitable solution for setting or waving the hair, flattening the tube with its enclosed mesh, rolling the flattened tube from its tip end to the roots, and securing the rolled tube by a clip or other suitable means. This is referred to hereinafter as "the method described". A thin material as understood in the present specification is one which will permit a tube thereof filled with a mesh to be flattened and rolled on itself at right-angles to the tubular axis; thus it may be made of thin sheet of india-rubber or plastics material, perforated or not (according to whether the mesh is treated with the solution after or before enclosure in the tube), or materials pervious to liquids such as fine

nylon net or other woven fabric, paper or perforated normally impervious material.

The implement is constructed to draw the mesh through the tube by its tip so as to enclose the mesh within the tube, which facilitates enclosing the mesh within the tube, said implement having one end to which the mesh tip can be secured and held while the tube is slipped off the implement on to the mesh, and its other end adapted for the subsequent rolling of the tube and its contained mesh.

According to the said invention an implement for use in the method described for curling hair, wherein the mesh is to be introduced into a flexible tube, comprises an elongated body for passing into and through the tube, a hooked end to the said body for engaging and holding the tip end of the mesh and for drawing the mesh into the tube, while simultaneously removing the implement from the tube, and a handle part at the opposite end of the body for manipulating the implement, said handle being bifurcated providing a slot to fit over and pinch the outer end of the tube and its contained mesh so as to facilitate rolling the same from end to end thereof.

In order that the said invention may be readily understood some embodiments thereof will be described by way of example, with the aid of the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figures 1—3 are three views showing the method described, in progressive stages, in conjunction with an implement according to the invention shown for drawing the mesh through the tube;

Figure 4 is an elevation of a form of implement according to the invention;

Figure 5 is a plan view of Figure 4, and

Figures 6, 7 and 8 are respectively elevation, end view looking from the left thereof, and end view looking from the right, of an

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adapter for slipping over the handle of the implement.

In Figures 1 to 3 the mesh of hair is designated by the reference numeral 1, the tips being marked 1a.

Referring to Figures 1—3 and 4 and 5, there is employed a thin flexible tube 2 which may be of india-rubber, synthetic rubber or plastics substance such as polyvinyl chloride particularly if an imperforate material is required. In this latter case the mesh would be preliminarily dampened with water, shampoo or setting lotions, or a permanent waving solution such as one of the cold waving mercaptans. However, the tube 2 may be made of a material pervious to liquid so that the latter may be applied to the mesh from the exterior of the tube, and so that the mesh will dry as quickly as possible.

As seen in Figure 1 the implement shown in Figures 4 and 5 is used to draw the mesh 1 through the tube 2 so that it lies substantially co-axial with the tube. This implement has an elongated cylindrical handle part 3 from which extends axially a flat elongated blade-like body part 4 formed with a transverse slot 5 leading from one of its longitudinal edges near its end remote from the handle 3. This has been pushed through the tube 2 as in Figure 1 from one end so as to project at the other end, whereupon the tip 1a of the mesh is caught up in the slot 5. If desired a slider 6 may be mounted on the blade-like body 4 co-operating with the hooked end so as to grip the mesh tip more firmly on the end of the implement. Then the blade 4 can be withdrawn through the tube 2 drawing with it the mesh 1 so that the tube can be slipped down to the roots of the mesh in the direction of arrows A, Figure 1, as shown by broken lines, and substantially enclose the latter completely. Thereupon the implement is disengaged from the tips 1a and the tube with its enclosed mesh is flattened out, and rolled from the tip end, as in Figure 2, to the roots. When rolled as near as possible to the scalp the roll is secured by a clip 7 or the like. Figure 2 shows the rolling step being carried out by hand so as clearly to illustrate the method described, but it is a function of the implement to facilitate such rolling step.

When the tube 2 is straightened out and slipped off the mesh 1 the latter re-assumes the curled condition imparted by the method although in a somewhat looser form, and can then be manipulated and styled as usual with meshes curled by other methods. The method avoids the use of a pin or curler forming a rigid core in the middle of the mesh when being rolled in the direction depicted in Figure 2 and curls and waves having a very natural appearance result.

The rolling step is effected by the implement of the invention, that is to say the imple-

ment facilitates rolling the flattened mesh in the direction shown in Figure 2, and for this purpose see Figures 4 and 5 the handle 3 of the implement is bifurcated by providing a slot 8 from its free end a requisite distance along the handle, and said slotted end can fit over and pinch the outer end of the tube into a flattened form and then used to roll the tube down to its end near the mesh roots. When this rolling is completed the implement handle can be pulled out of the rolled tube. It will be apparent that the diameter of the roll of the flattened tube will depend upon the diameter of the handle 3, and such a diameter or girth may be increased by first clipping an adapted member to the handle by means of the slot 8 and then using the composite handle device to carry out the rolling. Such an adapter is seen in Figures 6 and 8 which is a tube having an internal diameter approximately equal to the external diameter of the handle 3 and formed with a diametrically opposite pair of elongated lugs 9 projecting inwardly at one end to engage the slot 8 in the handle to prevent rotation of the adapter thereon. This adapter is slipped over the handle 3 with the end seen in Figure 7 leading, whereupon the longitudinal slot 10 in the adapter registers with the slot 8 of the handle.

The tube may be lined with an absorbent lining either permanently fixed within the tube, or detachable for single use, so that the lining can be impregnated with any requisite solution for treating the mesh.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. An implement for use in the method described for curling hair, wherein the mesh is to be introduced into a flexible tube, comprising an elongated body for passing into and through the tube, a hooked end to the said body for engaging and holding the tip end of the mesh and for drawing the mesh into the tube, while simultaneously removing the implement from the tube, and a handle part at the opposite end of the body for manipulating the implement, said handle part being bifurcated providing a slot to fit over and pinch the outer end of the tube and its contained mesh so as to facilitate rolling the same from end to end thereof.

2. An implement according to Claim 1 in which the bifurcated handle part is cylindrical for forming a curl by rolling the tube therearound.

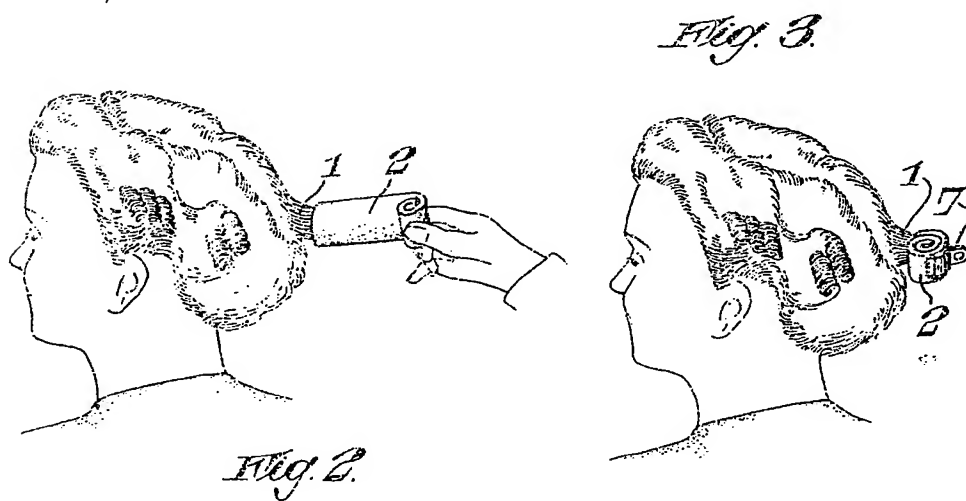
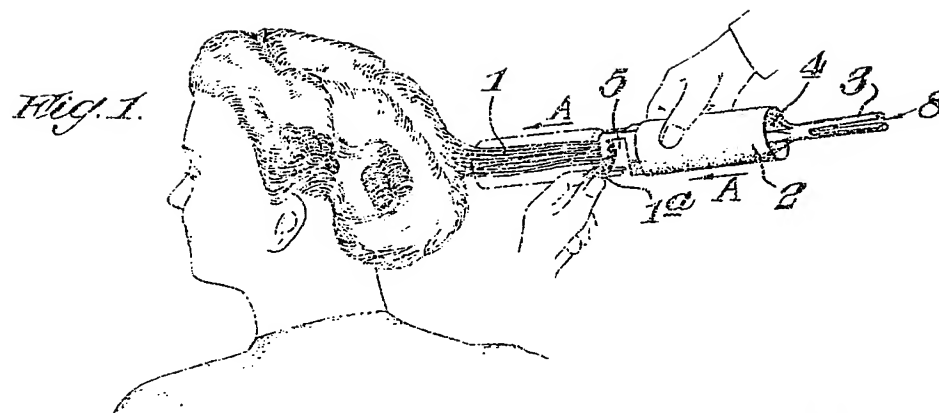
3. An implement according to any one of the preceding claims in which the body of the implement is a flat elongated blade-like part, and the hooked end is made by forming a transverse slot leading from one of its longitudinal edges.

4. An implement according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the body is furnished with a slider co-operating with the hooked end to grip the mesh tip firmly on the end of the implement.

5. An implement according to Claim 2, (and 3 and 4 when appendant to Claim 2), combined with an adapter to fit over the handle to increase the diameter or girth thereof, said adapter being in the form of a tube having an internal diameter approximately equal to the external diameter of the handle and formed with a longitudinal slot to register with the slot in the handle, means being provided to prevent rotation of the adapter on the handle.
6. An implement for use in the method described for curling hair constructed substantially as herein described and as illustrated in Figures 1, 4 and 5 of the accompanying drawings.
7. An implement for use in the method described for curling hair constructed substantially as herein described and as illustrated in Figures 1, 4 and 5 of the accompanying drawings, and combined with an adapter substantially as herein described and as illustrated in Figures 6, 7 and 8 of the accompanying drawings.

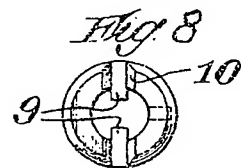
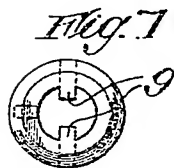
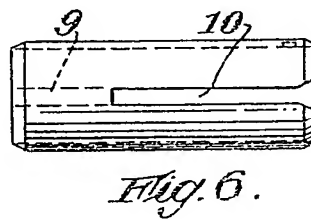
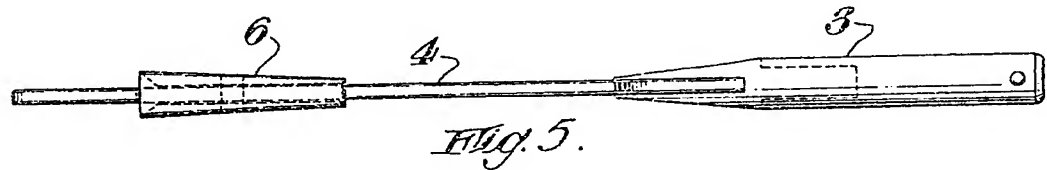
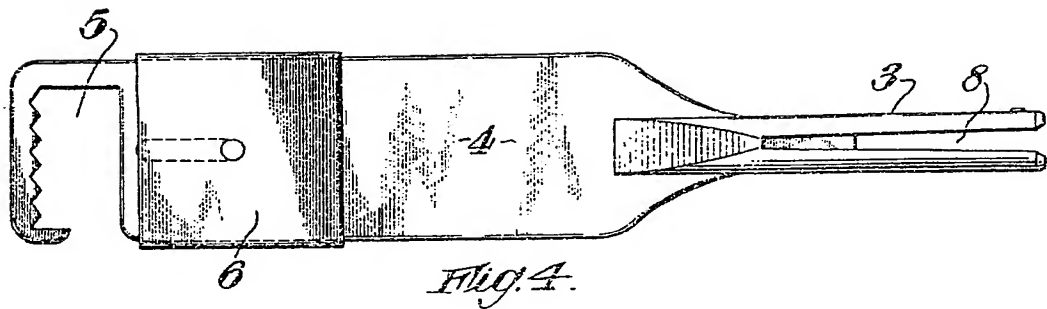
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